

**SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL
SOFTBALL AND GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS 2017**

1. RULES AND REGULATIONS

All sports and games shall be conducted:

- 1.1 according to the laws/rules established by the respective International Federations (IFs) / governing bodies. (as per current Official Softball Rules as adopted by the International Joint Rules Committee on Softball (2014-2017))
- 1.2 in the event that the rules and regulations are modified for safety/developmental reasons to suit the level of our school pupils, it must be clearly stated in the respective sports/games rules and regulations.
- 1.3 as governed by the Rules and Regulations of the Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council.
- 1.4 In the absence of a set of recognised rules to govern the occurrence of situations during the competitions, the rules of the prevailing International Federations will be applied.
- 1.5 adhering to the Baseline Safety Standards for National School Games.

2. CHAMPIONSHIP ORGANISING COMMITTEE

2.1 COMPOSITION

2.1.1 The Championship Organising Committee shall consist of the following:

- a) The National Convenor,
- b) The Games Advisor,
- c) The Zone Convenors,
- d) Organising Secretaries and
- e) Any other co-opted members deemed necessary

2.1.2 The Championship Organising Committee and the Zone Convenors are empowered to appoint sub-committees and individual members to assist in the organisation and running of the Championships as and when required.

2.2 DUTIES

2.2.1 The Championship Organising Committee shall have the following roles and responsibilities:-

- a) to draw fixtures;
- b) to fix venues, dates and times;
- c) to arrange for equipment and facilities, and perform any other tasks for conducting the Championships;
- d) to conduct RAMS for the Championships (for the 5 sports/games identified with higher risks - basketball, football, rugby, taekwondo & hockey RAMS must be conducted at the start of each competition period);

- e) to ensure that court/pitch/venue¹ managers conduct RAMs for the respective games venues;
- f) to appoint judges/referees/umpires/linesman/officials;
- g) to organize training/upgrading officiating courses for judges/referees/umpires/linesman/officials (where applicable);
- h) to incur expenditure within the allocated budget approved by the SPSSC;
- i) to select players to represent SPSSC in approved local and overseas Championships, to appoint coaches to take charge of the teams;
- j) to deal with matters pertaining to discipline, protest and other aspects of the Championships;
- k) to source and organise coaching and officiating courses to upgrade the technical knowledge and expertise of teachers; and
- l) to implement the Baseline Safety Standards in the organisation of National School Games.

3. DIVISION

3.1 For Implementation in 2017

3.1.1 All students shall compete in their respective divisions.

3.1.2 Age Dispensation Policy

For Sports and Games listed in the table below, 7 year olds and 8 year olds may choose to participate in the Junior Division.

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a) Badminton | b) Golf |
| c) Gymnastics | d) Rope skipping |
| e) Sailing | f) Swimming |
| g) Table Tennis | h) Taekwondo (Poomsae event only) |
| i) Tennis | j) Tenpin bowling |
| k) Track & Field | l) Wushu |

3.1.3 Application has to be put forth by parents/guardians, endorsed by school Principals and submitted to respective games organising committee for follow-up (Refer to Annex B).

3.1.4 All pupils can only compete in one division of that particular sport/game within the same year.

3.1.5 Age dispensation policy is only applicable to the year of application.

3.1.6 For Softball, the following age group divisions apply:

Senior Division

1 Jan 2007

1 Jan 2006 --- 31 Dec 2006

1 Jan 2005 --- 31 Dec 2005

2 Jan 2004 --- 31 Dec 2004

¹ Court/Pitch Managers will be responsible for the safety for the field of play for the competition. Venue Manager will take care of the area beyond the field of play. Venue Manager may also take charge of the entire competition venue including the field of play depending where the competition is held.

Junior Division
 1 Jan 2009
 1 Jan 2008 --- 31 Dec 2008
 2 Jan 2007 --- 31 Dec 2007

3.1.7 Age Dispensation is not applicable for Softball.

4. ENTRIES

4.1 Each school is eligible to enter only one team in each of the following divisions:

- a) Boys Senior Division
- b) Boys Junior Division
- c) Girls Senior Division
- d) Girls Junior Division

4.2 When Zone Championships are used as qualifying rounds for the National Championships, the top 4 teams of each division from each zone will proceed to compete in the National Championships.

4.3 All entries must be submitted through the SPSSC e-Registration portal on or before the stipulated closing date. This includes details of players along with the necessary supporting documents.

- a) Baseline Safety Standards Acknowledgement Form
- b) Supporting documents for Special/Transfer case students
- c) Other forms as determined by the respective Games Organising Committee

~~4.4 The registration forms of players must be received by the Convenor concerned on or before the stipulated closing date which will be at least three (3) working days before the commencement of the Championship.~~

~~4.5 The registration forms must include the following details:~~

- ~~d) Full Name as in NRIC/Student Pass~~
- ~~e) Date of birth~~
- ~~f) Birth Certificate/NRIC Number/Student Pass Number~~
- ~~g) Race~~
- ~~h) Nationality~~
- ~~i) Baseline Safety Acknowledgement Form~~

5. REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

5.1 The total number of players to be registered shall not deviate from that laid down in the Rules and Regulations of the respective sports/games for both the Zone and the National Championships. (For Softball, each team shall E-Register a minimum of 9 and up to a maximum of 15 players)

5.2 Teams, which have qualified from the Zone Championships to the National Championship, may register a new team list at the time of registration.

5.3 Only in the event that any player(s) registered be transferred or has/have to leave school during the preliminary rounds, the school shall be allowed to replace the affected player(s).

- 5.3.1 Schools must write in to inform the Convenors of the replacement at least one (1) working day before the next match.
- 5.3.2 However, no replacement of player is allowed once the Championship reaches the semi-final stage or after 2 games have been played in a single group round league.
- 5.4 If a school chooses not to register the maximum number of players allowed by the sport/game, at the time of submitting the registration form to the Convenor, the school shall not be permitted to register additional players subsequently.
- 5.5 International pupils can only be registered to play for their school **after** they have been issued with the student passes from the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA).
- 5.6 International pupils who are in the schools on exchange programme are not allowed to represent the school.
- 5.7 Pupils granted Leave of Absence (LOA) by MOE will be allowed to represent the school.
- 5.8 Registration constitutes representation, that is, once a pupil is registered to play for a school, he or she is deemed to have represented his or her school. Hence, the pupil is not allowed to represent another school in the same sports/games in the same year.

6. CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

- 6.1 For Team Sports/Games, there must be a minimum of three (3) registered teams from three (3) different schools before a team Championship can be organised.
- 6.2 For Individual Sports/Games, there must be a minimum of three (3) registered individuals from three (3) different schools before a Championship can be organised.
- 6.3 The Championships for Team Sports/Games² shall be organised on an inter-school league format. Where entries are grouped, each group shall have a minimum of four (4) teams³ (Please refer to Annex C).
- 6.4 The Zone Championships of these seven (7) team games; Badminton, Basketball, Football, Netball, Rope Skipping, Table Tennis and Volleyball, will be used as qualifying round for the National Championships.
- 6.5 Any deviation from the Championship format requires approval from the Council or the Standing Committee and must be clearly stated in the respective sports/games rules and regulations.

² Team Sports refer to Badminton, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Sepaktakraw, Softball, Table Tennis, Tennis, Volleyball, and Floorball.

³ The rule applies when the championship is organised in format involving two and more groups. The rule is **NOT** applicable for Zone Championships when a zone has less than four teams advancing to the national Championship due to disqualification and/or other reasons.

- 6.6 For Softball, the Championships at the preliminary rounds shall be organised on an inter-school league. Where entries are grouped, each group shall have a minimum of four (4) teams.
- 6.7 For Softball, the Junior Girls Division will be played with the round robin format with no new innings after 1 hour. Each inning will start off with One Strike/One Ball format and each game will be completed in 3 innings with 7 runs capped per inning. Teams will only play one game per day.
- 6.8 For Softball, for the semi-finals, the champion and runner-up of each group shall enter into a crisscross Championships. The winner of group I will meet the runner-up of group II and vice-versa.
- 6.9 For Softball, the winners of the two (2) semi-finals shall then play at the final to decide the champion and runner-up. The remaining teams of the two (2) semi-finals will play for 3rd and 4th positions.
- 6.10 For Softball, Pitching Distance:
- | | | |
|------------------------|---|---------|
| Boys Senior Division | - | 35 feet |
| Boys Junior Division | - | 32 feet |
| Girls Senior Division | - | 32 feet |
| Girls Junior Division | - | 29 feet |
| Distance between bases | - | 50 feet |
- 6.11 Equipment (For Softball)
- 6.11.1 Game Ball - All rubber Official Softball balls (Kendo or Nagase) shall be used. Each team shall provide a new game ball at the start of each game*. (*balls are technically provided by Org Com, schools can still use their own balls if the balls provided are not retrievable during games, a new game ball is to be provided at the start of each game as in previous years)
- 6.11.2 Helmets - All batters and base-runners must wear protective helmets. Exception is made for Sikh students with turbans. All students who act as base coaches in the Coach Box must also wear helmets.
- 6.11.3 Catchers - All catchers must use the Catcher's Helmet, Body Protector, Throat Guard and Leg Guards.
- 6.11.4 Bats – *Bats to have the stamp of ISF 2005*
- 6.12 Playing Attire (For Softball)
- 6.12.1 All teams must play in proper Softball attires for safety reasons (includes proper softball slacks with socks and boots). The attire should bear the school logo/badge or name. Each player of the same team must wear the same kind and same colour of attire. Players without numbers will not be allowed to play.
- 6.12.2 Footwear with metal cleats or metal studs is not allowed.
- 6.12.3 No player may play bare-footed or without socks.

- 6.12.4 Playing uniform must be numbered. Only numbers 1 / 01 to 99 shall be used. The number must be at least 6 inches high and must be worn on the back of all uniform shirts.

6.13 Number of Innings (For Softball)

- 6.13.1 All games shall be played up to the 5th Inning and no new innings shall start if the respective divisions play up till:
- 1 hour 50 minutes for Senior Boys Division
 - 1 hour 30 minutes for Senior Girls Division
 - 1 hour 30 minutes for Junior Boys Division
 - 1 hour for Junior Girls Division
- 6.13.2 Irrespective of the number of innings completed, no new innings shall start if the respective divisions play up till the allocated time limits. If an inning is on-going at the time limit set for the respective divisions and the bottom batting team is leading, the game will be stopped after the batting team has completed batting. If the bottom batting team is lagging, the game will be stopped after the bottom team is taking the lead. The result will be based on the score after the game is stopped.
- 6.13.3 A game will be considered as an official game after the 3rd inning.
- 6.13.4 In the event of weather disruption (Lightning Alert NEA Website Address: <http://www.weather.gov.sg/lws/zonelfnfo.do> or Lightning@SG App), the one hour OR three innings rule will apply. For example, if the teams completed 3 innings after 40 minutes before being called off, the result will stand. Similarly, if the teams could only complete 2 innings but have played more than 1 hour before being called off, the result will also stand. In this situation, result will be based on the last completed innings. The ONLY EXCEPTION will be if the team batting during the bottom order takes the lead, then the winning score will stand. However, this will not apply to finals and semi-finals.
- 6.13.5 In the event of weather disruption (Lightning Alert NEA Website Address: <http://www.weather.gov.sg/lws/zonelfnfo.do> or Lightning@SG App) and the game has not met the one hour OR three innings rule, the maximum official waiting time is 60 minutes before the umpire can call off the game. The game should be stopped immediately when the lightning alert at the area is activated. The team requesting for the game to be stopped is required to show proof of the alert to the umpire. If there are disputes between the teams, the umpire will make the decision based on majority from input from umpire and the teachers in-charge from both teams.
- 6.13.6 In the case of lightning alert, the game should be stopped immediately if the alert is activated. If the game is resumed and there is a 2nd lightning alert, the game will be called off.
- 6.13.7 In other cases such as ground condition, the umpire will make the decision of stopping or calling off the game. If there is any dispute, the venue manager should consult the National Convenor to make the final decision.

- 6.13.8 The score, innings, batting line-ups from both teams, runner(s) position, pitch counts and outs are to be recorded for disrupted games. The games to be replayed will continue from the scores, innings, and batting line-ups from both teams, runner position, pitch counts and outs recorded from the disrupted games.
- 6.13.9 The waiting time for semi and finals will be at the discretion of the National Convenor.
- 6.13.10 The 'Run Ahead Rule' will apply in the spirit of sportsmanship when the difference in score is at least 20 runs at 2nd inning, 15 runs at 3rd inning, 10 runs at 4th inning. (This rule also applies to the Semi-Finals, 3rd/4th Placings, Finals)
- 6.13.11 In the event of a draw after the time limit, a tie breaker will be played the following inning after the time limits for the respective divisions. (This rule also applies to the Semi-Finals, 3rd/4th Placings, Finals)
- 6.14 Hosting Teams and Visiting Teams. (For Softball)
- 6.14.1 The first named team shall be the Hosting Team and shall provide the Official Scorer. The Official Scorer must not be a student, SPE or AED. Overall accountability of Scoring is by the Teacher-in -Charge.
- 6.14.2 The Hosting Team shall provide pitch that is safe and fit for play. The Hosting Team shall be responsible for the proper layout of the Diamond and shall provide the full set of bases, the Pitcher's Plate and the Home Plate.
- 6.14.3 The Hosting Team shall inform the National Convenor the results of the game immediately after the match (via sms or whats app) and shall email the Official Score-sheet to the National Convenor within next working day.
- 6.14.4 Schools that are unable to provide their own venues will play at their opponent's ground or at any other ground arranged by the National Convenor.
- 6.14.5 The Visiting Team shall be given at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time of the game for warming-up on the Diamond.
- 6.14.6 The choice of the first or last to bat shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
- 6.14.7 Teams are to make their own arrangements for refreshments.
- 6.15 Umpires (For Softball)
- 6.15.1 The National Convenor will assign umpires for all games. Schools do not have the option of selecting umpires to referee their games.
- 6.15.2 The Plate Umpire together with the 2 Teachers In-charge can decide whether the game can be suspended or terminated in case of inclement weather.
- 6.15.3 Teachers In-charge are reminded to alert the umpire for 'time out' to clarify their doubts.

6.15.4 *“On-deck batters” must remain in the on-deck circle behind the batter for safety reasons.*

6.16 Venue for the Preliminary Games, Semi-Finals and Finals. (For Softball)

6.16.1 All National Level semi-finals and finals will be played off at venues decided upon by the Championship Organising Committee.

6.16.2 Semi-finals in each division shall be played off on the same day.

6.16.3 If there are insufficient venues for the preliminary games, Home Teams may eventually be required to source for their own venues for their matches to be played.

6.17 Violation and Penalties (For Softball)

6.17.1 If a fielder with deliberate unsportsmanlike intent, act in a manner to distract the batter/pitcher, he/she shall be EJECTED from the game. (ISF Rule 6 Sec 4)

6.17.2 External instructors/coaches or students who commit unsportsmanlike acts will be warned and even ejected from the game venue by the plate umpire (ISF Rule). Teachers In-Charge and students who commit such unsportsmanlike acts will be warned and asked to sit out of the game.

6.17.3 External Instructors who make disparaging, or insulting remarks to, or about, opposing players, umpires, officials, or spectators or commits other acts that could be considered unsportsmanlike conduct shall be:

- a) For the first offence, the offender may be warned.
- b) For the second offence, or if the first offence is considered serious enough by the umpire, the offender is EJECTED from the game. (ISF Rule 10 Sec 9)

7. GRACE PERIOD

7.1 Fifteen minutes (15 min) grace is allowed. The Convenor or his/her representative may at his/her discretion extend this grace period if he/she thinks the extension of grace period is justifiable (e.g. in special cases when delay may be caused by traffic jams, etc). However, the team concerned must contact the Convenor or his/her representative at the venue concerned to inform him/her of the delay. Teams must abide by the decision of the Convenor or his/her representative.

8. POSTPONEMENT

8.1 The Convenor or his representative shall, at his/her discretion, decide to postpone a match if he thinks the venue is unfit for play, or for any other valid reasons for which he deems a postponement is in order. Teams must abide by the decision of the Convenor or his/her representative.

8.2 For Softball: Games may need to be played during curriculum time if a game is postponed due to continuous inclement weather or other valid reasons. A mutual agreement between the two teams will then need to be made immediately after the

game postponement confirmation, with regards to the game venue and immediate game replay day, which is the 2nd school day after the postponed game day (for example, game is postponed from Mon - 3pm game to Wed – 9am game). The two teams concerned will need to stand-by their fields to ensure their availability in the mornings. The National Convenor must be kept informed soonest possible.

- 8.3 For Softball: National Convenor will try as far as possible to accommodate requests for matches not to be held during participating schools' major events or other exigencies. However, once the fixtures are confirmed, schools are not allowed to appeal for the change in dates or times of the matches.

9. WITHDRAWAL AND WALKOVER

- 9.1 Any withdrawal or walkover is considered contrary to the spirit of the game.
- 9.2 Schools participating in the championship should not withdraw or give walk-over.
- 9.3 For each withdrawal⁴ or walk-over, a written explanation duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Convenor and the Game Advisor within two (2) working days. (For Softball, all results involving the team will be null and void)
- 9.4 In the play-off for top 4 placing, any walkover will disqualify the team from being placed.

10. ABANDONED GAME

- 10.1 The referee/umpire/match manager is required to submit a written report on an abandoned game within one (1) working day.
- 10.2 For decision on abandoned game, refer to Para 21 on disqualifications.
- 10.3 For Softball, the Plate Umpire shall decide whether the ground is suitable for play in consultation with the two teachers in charge of teams.
- 10.4 For Softball, when the Plate Umpire decides to abandon a game due to ground or weather conditions, the games should be played 2 days after the actual game. The Hosting Team will inform the National Convenor of the change immediately. If the game is postponed again or teams are scheduled to play a game on that day, the game will have to be played on the following day where there are no other games arranged. For example, if a game is postponed on Mon, the game will have to be played on Wed. If the game is postponed again or teams have a game on Wed, the game will have to be played on Thur followed by Fri.
- 10.5 For Softball, for any postpone games, the Hosting Team will inform the National Convenor of the change immediately after the postponement.

11. PROTEST

- 11.1 Any clarification on points of laws/rules, must be lodged immediately by the teacher-in-charge to the referee/umpire/judge. The decision taken by the referee/umpire/judge will be final.

⁴All results involving the team will be null and void.

- 11.2 All protests shall be referred to the Championship Organising Committee. The protest(s) must reach the Committee within one (1) working day following the match to which it relates unless stipulated otherwise in the respective games rules. The protest must be in writing and duly signed by the principal. All protests must also be accompanied by a protest fee of one hundred and fifty-dollars (\$150)⁵.
- 11.3 The Championship Organising Committee will deliberate on the protest within three (3) working days unless stipulated otherwise in the respective games rules. The decision will then be made known in writing to the school concerned by the next day.
- 11.4 If the protest is upheld, the protest fee will not be required. If it is overruled, the protest fee of \$150 will be deducted from the protesting school's account, via IFAAS.
- 11.5 When there is conflict of interest, the school involved will not sit in the committee considering the protest.
- 11.6 For Softball, if a team decides to protest, a Notice of Protest shall be made known to the Umpire concerned as well as the opposing team at the time of the protest. (Teachers In-charge are reminded to alert the umpire for 'time out' to clarify their doubts. Three signatures from both Teachers In-charge and the umpire on the score sheet is mandatory if any protests are to be put up.) Protests shall not be received, or considered, if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire, or if the team lodging the protest won the game (ISF Rule 11 sec 1). (Please refer to Annex F for examples of protest that will not be received or will be received)
- 11.7 For Softball, all necessary information must be noted in the Official Score-sheet and signed by the teacher in charge of the team making the protest as well as the umpire. All necessary information (Time of Protest, Brief Description of Issue) must be noted at the back of the Official Score-sheet and signed by both teacher in-charge of the teams making the protest as well as the umpire. The umpire will put up games irregularity report at the end of the game and forward the report to the umpire coordinator.

12. APPEAL

- 12.1 Upon the release/disclosure of the decision of the Championship Organising Committee, only schools may appeal to the Council.
- 12.2 Notices of appeal shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Zone/Central Council within two (2) working days upon receiving the Championship Organising Committee's Decision. The appeal must be in writing and duly signed by the Principal and accompanied by an administrative fee of three hundred dollars (\$300)⁶.
- 12.3 Upon receiving the notice of appeal from the school, the appeal fee of \$300 shall be deducted from the school's account via IFAAS. Regardless of the outcome of the appeal, there will be no refund.
- 12.4 The Board of Appeal will deliberate on the appeal. The decision of the Board of Appeal shall be final (Please refer to Annex D).

⁵ Amount is inclusive of GST.

⁶ Amount is inclusive of GST.

13. SUSPENSION

13.1 A player suspended by any one of the following bodies is barred from participating in SPSSC Championships for that sport/game for the period of suspension:

- a) The School
- b) The Zone Council
- c) The Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council
- d) The National Association of the sport/game

14. AWARD OF LEAGUE POINTS

14.1 The following scoring system shall apply:

14.1.1 For games which can end in a draw:

Win	3 points
Draw	1 point
Loss / Walkover	0 point

14.1.2 For games which cannot end in a draw: (For Softball)

Win	2 points
Loss	1 point
Walkover	0 point

15. TIE IN LEAGUE POINTS (For Softball)

15.1 In the event of a tie in league points between two teams, the team which had won the match between the two teams concerned would be ranked higher.

15.2 When there is a tie among 3 or more teams, the teams will be ranked in order of the runs against record in the games among themselves, the team with the lowest run against record is ranked first. (Runs against record is the total number of runs scored by the specified opponents of that team).

15.3 If the three teams remain tied in their records among themselves, the teams will then be ranked in order of the total run against record in the group, followed by the total run for record in the group, i.e. their overall performance with other teams within the group will be taken into consideration.

16. PRIZES

16.1 The number of prizes and plaques (for team Championships only) to be awarded at the Zone and National Championship shall be as follows:

3 teams	: 2 team prizes
4 teams	: 3 team prizes
5 or more teams	: 4 team prizes

16.2 One Sportsmanship Certificate for each team.

17. TEACHER-IN-CHARGE OF TEAM

17.1 Each participating team must be accompanied by a teacher who shall remain with the team throughout the duration of play (Please refer to Annex E).

17.2 Teachers-in-charge are not allowed to interfere with the final decision taken by the referee/umpire/judge/official on points of laws/rules after clarification has been sought. If such interference results in disruption of any match/game, a report shall be made by the Convenor and the matter brought to the attention of the Championship Organising Committee for appropriate action.

17.3 The teacher-in-charge shall be an Education Officer or a Contract Adjunct Teacher only.

17.4 All schools must ensure that a first aid trained chaperon is with the team during the competitions.

18. REFEREES / UMPIRES / JUDGE / OFFICIALS

18.1 For Team Sports/Games, all participating schools must provide a referee/umpire/judge/official or make payment for a referee/umpire/judge/official arranged by the Convenor for the Championships.

18.2 Education Officers, Contract Adjunct teachers, Flexi-adjunct teachers and Allied Educators can serve as officials.

18.3 Schools have to ensure that their referees/umpires/judges/officials are present to fulfil their duties as scheduled by the Convenor.

18.4 For Individual Sports/Games, all participating schools must provide one referee/umpire/judge/official for the full duration of the Championship if needed.

19. EXTERNAL INSTRUCTORS

19.1 External instructors are expected to conduct themselves with decorum during competitions (Please refer to Annex E).

19.2 External instructors are not allowed to approach the game officials to query their decisions. Only teachers-in-charge are allowed to approach game officials to seek clarifications.

19.3 Schools must ensure that their external instructors adhere to the SPSSC Rules and Regulations and the Code of Conduct.

19.4 An external instructor who has breached the Rules and Regulations and the Code of Conduct will be referred to the respective Championship Organising Committees by the respective convenors or the schools which engaged him/her for appropriate action to be taken.

20. SUPPORTERS

- 20.1 Schools sending supporters to any championship shall ensure that their pupils are in proper school uniform and that there is sufficient number of teachers on duty to maintain discipline.
- 20.2 All supporters are required to remain within the stipulated area for supporters throughout the Championship. They are not allowed to be in the Championship arena.
- 20.3 Participating schools must ensure that their supporters and spectators attending the game(s) conduct themselves to the best of their abilities (Refer to Annex D). In the event that unsportsmanlike behaviour is observed, the Convenor may, at his discretion, issue an eviction of the spectator from the training/competition venue.

21. DISQUALIFICATION

- 21.1 A school will be disqualified if it commits any of the following:
- a) if it fields an ineligible player who is:
 - i. an overage player
 - ii. an underage player
 - iii. an unregistered player
 - iv. a suspended player
 - v. a player without a valid student pass
 - vi. a non bona fide pupil
 - b) team/player not accompanied by a teacher
 - c) team/player which caused the game/match to be abandoned
- 21.2 All results involving the team which has been disqualified will be considered null and void.

22. ATTIRE

All school athletes must be suitably attired in accordance with the requirement of the sport/game. The attire should bear the school colours/logo/badge or name.

23. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

All matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be dealt with by the respective Championship Organising Committees.

24. AMENDMENTS

The Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council shall have the right to delete, add or amend the rules and regulations laid down herein.

AGE DISPENSATION POLICY FOR SPSSC**1. BACKGROUND**

Age Dispensation Policy refers to the approval for a pupil to participate in a sport/game recognised by the Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council (SPSSC).

This policy **only** applies to 7 and 8 years old who wish to participate in the 'Junior' Division competitions organised under the auspices of the SPSSC (except the 5 identified sports⁷ with higher risks). Poomsae event for Taekwondo is allowed.

2. APPLICATION PROCESS

Eligible students (listed in para 1) are to apply for age dispensation with their respective games organising committees using the application form in **Annex B2**. This form has to be submitted by their parents/guardians and endorsed by their school Principal.

The application form has to be submitted together with the school's registration form for the competition.

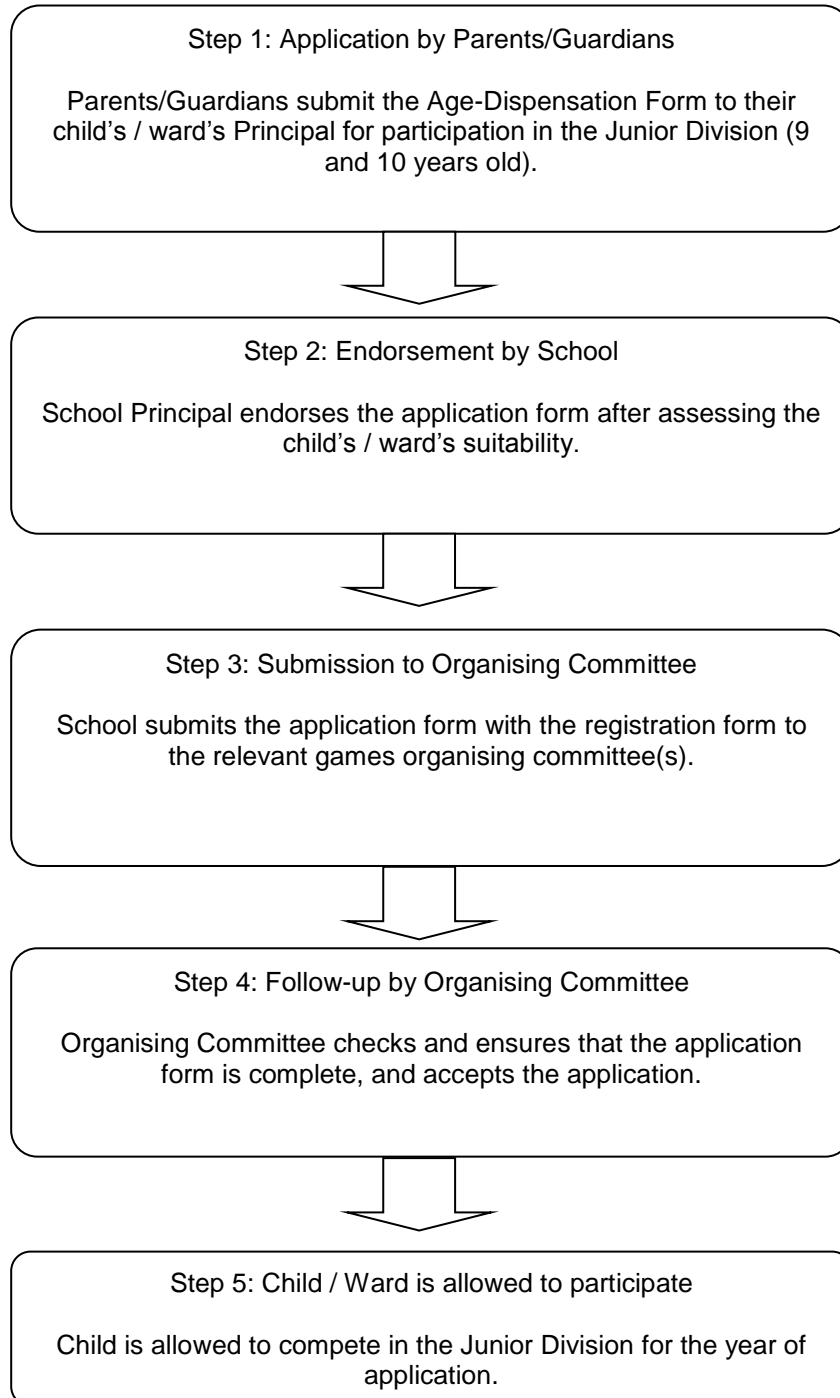
Any application submitted after the closing date stipulated by the respective games convenors will not be considered.

3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- a. Age dispensation for 7 and 8 years old is allowed for all sports; except the 5 identified sports with higher risks. Poomsae event for Taekwondo is allowed.
- b. Age dispensation is only granted for the year of application.
- c. Once approved, pupil can only compete in the Junior division, i.e. for both individual and team events for the approved year.

⁷ The 5 identified sports are rugby, football, basketball, hockey and taekwondo (Kyrugi). Taekwondo (Poomsae) is a non-contact segment, hence it is not classified as a sport with higher risk.

**SPSSC FIVE STEP FLOWCHART FOR
AGE DISPENSATION**



**SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL
APPLICATION FOR AGE DISPENSATION**

Sport:			
Student's Particulars			
Name :		Gender:	
NRIC:		Date of Birth:	
Parent's / Guardian's Particulars			
Name:		* Father/Mother/Guardian	
Contact Number		Alt Contact Number :	
School's Particulars			
School:			
Principal:			
Teacher in charge:			
Contact Number		Alt Contact Number :	
Rationale Supporting the Request for Age Dispensation			

Acknowledgement by Parent/Guardian:

I, _____, parent/guardian of _____ would like to request for my child/ward to represent the school in the SPSSC Junior division competition for the above-mentioned sport in _____ (Year).

I have assessed his/her physical and mental readiness and deem him/her to be suitable and ready to compete in the above-stated category.

	Parent's/Guardian's Signature and Date

Principal's Endorsement:

	Principal's Signature and Date

CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

In determining the format for the competition, National/Zone Organising Committees should aim to provide meaningful⁸ competition experiences for participating teams. The suggested championship formats highlighted in this Annex are options that the Organising Committee can consider when drawing up their fixtures. The selected competition format should be standardised within the same sport (i.e. across zones; and from year to year).

One-Group Championship FormatGrouping

The Championship will be played in a One-Group single round robin format.

Number of Teams	Group
3 to 7 teams	One-Group

The National/Zone Organising Committee may decide to adopt one of the options listed below according to ranked order:

Option 1: With Play-offs	At the end of the One-Group round robin format, the top 2 placed teams will play-off for 1st & 2nd position and the 3rd and 4th placed teams will play-off for 3rd & 4th position
Option 2: With Semi-Finals	At the end of the One-Group round robin format, semi-finals will be played between the teams ranked 1st & 4th and 2nd & 3rd. The winners of the semi-finals will play for the 1st & 2nd and the losers of the semi-finals will play for the 3rd & 4th positions.
Option 3: Without play-offs or semi-finals	Team ranking will be determined by the league points accumulated at the end of the single round robin format.

Note:

National/Zone Organising Committee should adopt **Option 1 as a default option** when deciding on the competition format. If Option 1 is not tenable, the Organising Committee may consider adopting Option 2 next, followed by Option 3 and inform the Standing Committee.

Two-Group Championship Format**Preliminary Round**Seeding

The champion and the fourth team of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group A. The runner-up and the third team of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group B.

⁸ Each participating team should minimally play 3 matches (i.e. cumulative across Zone and National competitions; where applicable) in the course of competition.

Grouping

Except for the seeded team, grouping will be determined by the drawing of lots. The top 2 teams of each group will advance to the semi-final round. Convenor may determine the number of teams per group by drawing of lots.

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B
8 teams	4	4
9 teams	4	5
	5	4
10 teams	5	5
11 teams	5	6
	6	5
12 teams	6	6
13 teams	6	7
	7	6
14 teams	7	7

Semi-Final Round

The champion and runner-up of each group shall enter into a criss-cross championship. The winner of group A will meet the runner-up of group B and vice-versa.

Semi-final 1(SF2)	A1 vs. B2
Semi-final 2 (SF2)	B1 vs. A2

Finals

The winners of the two semi-finals shall then play at the final to decide the champion and runner-up. The losers of the two semi-finals will play for 3rd and 4th positions.

1 st & 2 nd Position	Winner of SF1 vs. Winner of SF2
3 rd & 4 th Position	Loser of SF1 vs. Loser of SF2

Three-Group Championship Format**Preliminary Round****Seeding**

The champion of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group A, the runner-up and third placed teams in Group B and Group C respectively. In the event that one of the seeded team withdraws from the tournament, the fourth placed team of the preceding tournament will be seeded.

Grouping

Except for the seeded team, grouping will be determined by the drawing of lots. The top 2 teams of the groups will advance to the quarter-final round. Convenor may determine the number of teams per group by drawing of lots.

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B	Group C
12 teams	4	4	4
13 teams	4	4	5
	5	4	4
	4	5	4
14 teams	4	5	5

	5	4	5
	5	5	4
15 teams	5	5	5
16 teams	6	5	5
	5	6	5
	5	5	6
17 teams	6	6	5
	6	5	6
	5	6	6
18 teams	6	6	6
19 teams	6	6	7
	7	6	6
	6	7	6
20 teams	6	7	7
	7	6	7
	7	7	6
21 teams	7	7	7

Quarter-Final Round

The quarter-final round will be played in a 2-Group format. One of the groups shall consist of two (2) group champions and one (1) group runners-up, and the other group one (1) group champion and two (2) group runners-up. The groups shall be determined by drawing of lots.

The group champion and runner-up shall be placed in different groups in the quarter-final round. For example, if A1 is drawn into Group X, A2 shall be placed in Group Y.

Group X	Group Y
A1	B1
C1	A2
B2	C2

Semi-Final Round

The champion and runner-up of each group shall enter into a criss-cross championship. The winner of group X will meet the runner-up of group Y and vice-versa.

Semi-final 1 (SF1)	X1 vs. Y2
Semi-final 2 (SF2)	Y1 vs. X2

Finals

The winners of the two semi-finals shall then play at the final to decide the champion and runner-up. The losers of the two semi-finals will play for 3rd and 4th positions.

1 st & 2 nd Position	Winner of SF1 vs. Winner of SF2
3 rd & 4 th Position	Loser of SF1 vs. Loser of SF2

Four-Group Championship Format

Preliminary Round

Seeding

The champion of the preceding tournament shall be seeded in Group A, the runner-up, third placed and the fourth placed teams in Group B, Group C and Group D respectively.

Grouping

Except for the seeded team, grouping will be determined by the drawing of lots. The top 2 teams of the groups will advance to the quarter-final round. Convenor may determine the number of teams per group by drawing of lots.

Number of Teams	Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D
16 teams	4	4	4	4
17 teams	5	4	4	4
	4	5	4	4
	4	4	5	4
	4	4	4	5
18 teams	5	5	4	4
	5	4	4	5
	4	5	5	4
	4	4	5	5
19 teams	5	5	5	4
	5	5	4	5
	5	4	5	5
	4	5	5	5
20 teams	5	5	5	5
21 teams	6	5	5	5
	5	6	5	5
	5	5	6	5
	5	5	5	6
22 teams	6	6	5	5
	6	5	5	6
	5	6	6	5
	5	5	6	6
23 teams	6	6	6	5
	6	6	5	6
	6	5	6	6
	5	6	6	6
24 teams	6	6	6	6
25 teams	7	6	6	6
	6	7	6	6
	6	6	7	6
	6	6	6	7
26 teams	7	7	6	6
	6	7	7	6
	7	6	6	7
	6	6	7	7
27 teams	7	7	7	6
	7	7	6	7
	7	6	7	7
	6	7	7	7
28 teams	7	7	7	7

Quarter-Final Round

The quarter-final round will be played in a 2-Group format. Each group shall consist of two (2) group champions and two (2) group runners-up. The groups shall be determined by drawing of lots. The group champion and runner-up shall be placed in different groups in the quarter-final round. For example, if A1 is drawn into Group X, A2 shall be placed in Group Y.

Group X	Group Y
A1	B1
C1	D1
B2	A2
D2	C2

Semi-Final Round

The champion and runner-up of each group shall enter into a criss-cross championship. The winner of group X will meet the runner-up of group Y and vice-versa.

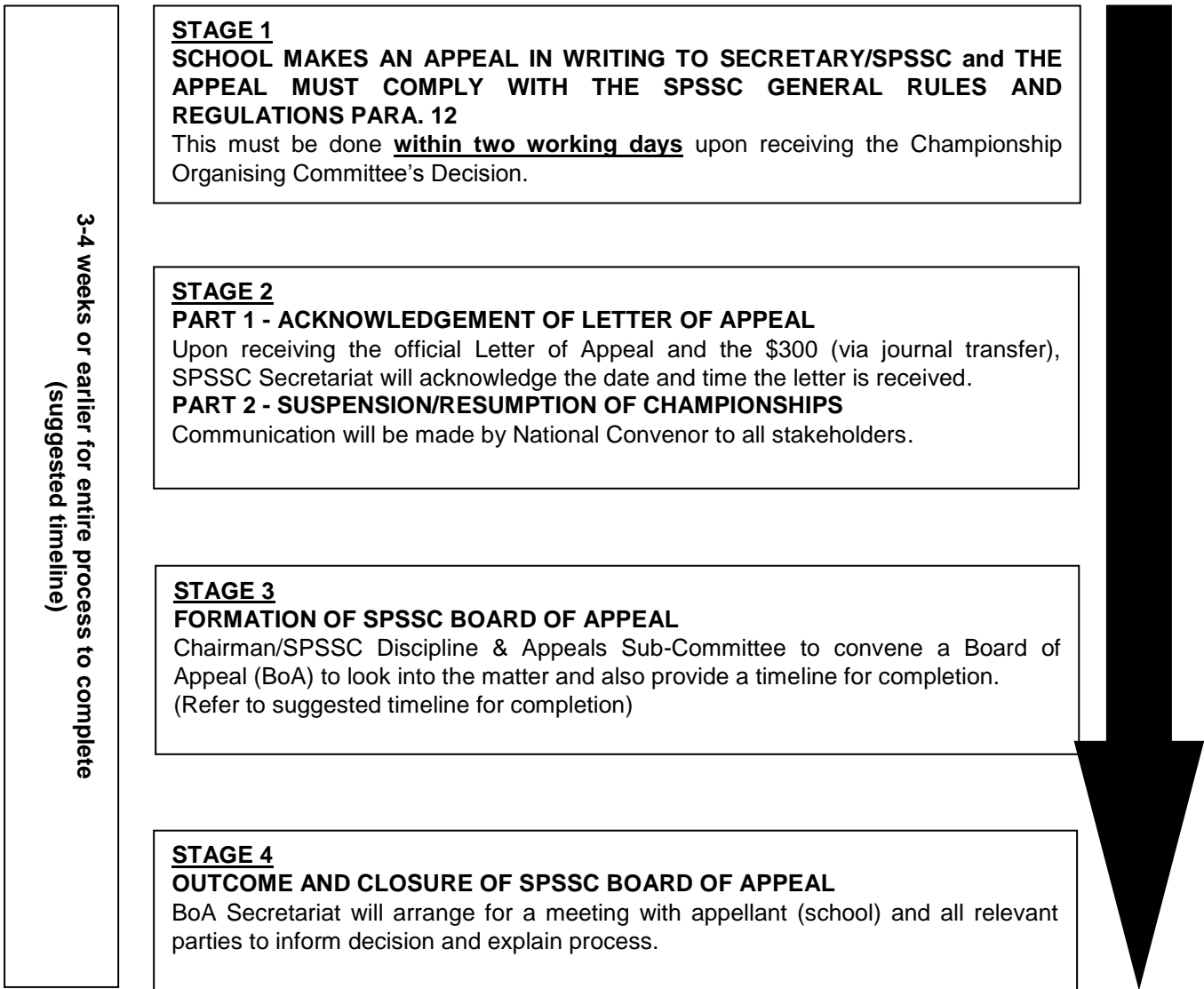
Semi-final match 1	X1 vs. Y2
Semi-final match 2	Y1 vs. X2

Finals

The winners of the two semi-finals shall then play at the final to decide the champion and runner-up. The losers of the two semi-finals will play for 3rd and 4th positions.

1 st & 2 nd Position	Winner of SF1 vs. Winner of SF2
3 rd & 4 th Position	Loser of SF1 vs. Loser of SF2

SPSSC PROCEDURE FOR APPEALS
WORKFLOW



As in accordance with the SPSSC General Rules and Regulations under rule 12.4, the decision of the Board of Appeal or the Standing Committee shall be final.

SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL**Role of The Teacher In-Charge**

(Please also refer to CCA Handbook: Role of CCA Teacher and Role of the CCA Coach / Instructor Chapter 2, Annex B & C

<http://library.opal.moe.edu.sg/cos/o.x?c=/library/reslib&uid=&ptid=84&func=prop2&id=255107>)

The teacher in-charge will represent the school on all matters pertaining to the administration and organisation of the tournament. He/She will do the following:

- to ensure good attendance during practice
- to take follow-up actions on absenteeism of members
- to co-ordinate training sessions with the external instructor
- to monitor and take stock of sports equipment
- to attend meetings called by the game convenor
- to submit team list
- to be responsible for the accuracy of the players' particulars in the entry forms and ensure that the pupils are not placed in the wrong division.
- to liaise between the Organising Committee (convenor school) and the Principal (school)
- to check the fixtures and schedules
- to make transport arrangements for the teams
- to accompany the schools teams for all competitions
- to remain with the team throughout the duration of play
- to be responsible for the conduct and behaviour of the external instructor, players and supporters
- to represent the school in matters pertaining to appeals/protests (as required by the sport/game)
- to accompany pupils at disciplinary board meeting
- to ensure that the team is medically covered e.g. first aid kit

Code of Conduct for External Instructors

- External instructors are expected to conduct themselves well in carrying out their duties.
- They are to observe the rules and regulations of the school.
- They should not replace the role of the teacher in-charge.
- They will prepare the training schedule for the team, in consultation with the Principal and the teacher in-charge (i.e. 30-week programme)
- They are not allowed into the competition area except where the rule of the game requires the presence of the instructor e.g. Softball.
- They cannot represent the school in any matters.
- They must not interfere with the organisation of the tournament.
- They are not allowed to approach the game officials to query their decisions. Only teachers-in-charge are allowed to approach game officials to seek clarifications.
- External instructors violating the above rules will be asked to leave the competition arena.
- Action will be taken against the school if the external instructors fail to comply with the tournament rules.
- The onus for the external instructors to adhere to the above rules and to be well versed with the competition rules amended to meet the needs of our pupils' lies with the school concerned.
- Ensure that the team has adequate rest and given water breaks.
- Instructors should refrain from using foul language or in a tone not becoming of proper behaviour.

Expected Behaviour for Spectators

Spectators' Creed

- Be a Respectful Supporter – Applaud excellence and fair play. Appreciate the efforts of all athletes, teachers, coaches, officials and organisers.
- Be a Motivator– Cheer to encourage and motivate. Care for athletes' well-being.
- Be a Responsible Spectator – Keep the venue safe and comfortable for all. Keep the venue clean.

Annex F

Sec. 1. PROTESTS THAT WILL NOT BE RECEIVED.

Protests shall not be received, or considered, if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire, or if the team lodging the protest won the game.

Examples of protest that will not be considered are:

- a. Whether a batted ball was fair, or foul.
- b. Whether a runner was safe, or out.
- c. Whether a pitched ball was a strike, or a ball.
- d. Whether a pitch was legal, or illegal.
- e. Whether a runner did, or did not, touch a base.
- f. Whether a runner left the base too soon on a caught fly ball.
- g. Whether a fly ball was, or was not, caught legally.
- h. Whether it was, or was not, an Infield Fly.
- i. Whether there was, or was not, an interference.
- j. Whether there was, or was not, an obstruction.
- k. Whether a player, or live ball, did or did not, enter a dead ball area, or touch some object or person in a dead ball area.
- l. Whether a batted ball did, or did not, clear the fence in flight.
- m. Whether the field is fit to continue, or resume, play.
- n. Whether there is sufficient light to continue play.
- o. Any other matter involving only the accuracy of the umpire's judgment.

Sec. 2. PROTESTS THAT WILL BE RECEIVED.

Protests that shall be received and considered include matters of the following types

- a. Misinterpretation of a playing rule.
- b. Failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule to a given situation.
- c. Failure to impose the correct penalty for a given violation.

NOTE: 1. Protests for the above must be made before the next pitch, or before all infielders have left fair territory or, if on the last play of the game, before the umpires leave the playing field.

2. After one pitch has been thrown (legal or illegal), no change can be made on any umpire's ruling.

- d. Eligibility of a team roster member.

NOTE: Protests for the above are to be submitted to the appropriate authority (not the umpires) and may be made at any time, subject to the provisions of Rule 11 Section 5.

Sec. 3. PROTESTS INVOLVING JUDGEMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF RULE.

Protests may involve both a matter of judgment and the interpretations of a rule.

An example of a situation of this type follows:

With one out and the runners on second and third bases, the batter flied out. The runner on third tagged up after the catch, the player on second did not. The runner on third crossed the plate before the ball was played at second base for the third out. The umpire did not allow the run to score. The questions as to whether the runners left their bases before the catch and whether the play at second was made before the player on third crossed the plate are solely matters of judgment and are not protestable. The failure of the umpire to allow the run to score was a misinterpretation of a playing rule and was a proper subject for protest.